



2013-2014 ANNUAL REPORT



Steven Tennen
Executive Director

Dear Friends,

This report celebrates ArtsConnection's work in 2013-14—our 35th anniversary year. It is full of numbers and statistics. They reveal the scope of our efforts in what was a very successful program year.

Still, I ask you to look closely at the photographs in this report because the children and young people in these photos are the real reasons why we do this work and tell this story.

To ensure the arts are an essential part of education, ArtsConnection connects performing and visual artists with children, teens, families, and schools in creative partnerships for teaching and learning.

Ensuring that today's students are college and career ready when they graduate from high school is our national education goal. At ArtsConnection we believe that hands-on participation in the visual and performing arts contribute mightily to the skill-building necessary to reach that goal. A good education is an education that includes quality arts instruction. This is what has inspired our work over more than three decades.

So, on behalf of the tens of thousands of children and young people who benefited from our programs during this year, I want to thank everyone who helped us impact their learning: the public, institutional and individual supporters who make ArtsConnection's work possible; the teachers and teaching artists who bring creativity into their lives; the principals who have made the arts part of their vision for an effective education. We couldn't do this without you.

Steven Tennen
Executive Director

ArtsConnection by the Numbers

35

Years of keeping the arts central to the lives of NYC's public school students, their schools and communities

74

Community-based organizations partnering in our High 5 Tickets to the Arts program

110

Partner schools with customized artist residency programs designed to complement each school's unique curriculum and student needs

550

Student artworks—from 56 NYC public middle and high schools—professionally framed and installed in corporate offices throughout NYC

1,268

NYC classrooms served

1,400

NYC public school educators attending professional development sessions

13,000

Hours of instruction for students

22,000

Free and discounted tickets from major cultural and performing arts venues made available to teenagers through our High 5 Tickets to the Arts program

50,000

NYC students participating in-school and after-school in arts residencies taught by practicing artists in theater, dance, visual arts, music and media

WHAT IT IS

WHO IT SERVES

WHY IT MATTERS

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Theater• Dance• Music• Visual Arts• Media	Children pre-k–12	ArtsConnection (AC) programs impact the intellectual, social, and emotional development of students in NYC's neediest schools and communities.
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SPECIAL INITIATIVES

DELLTA	English language learners and their teachers	English language learners develop crucial vocabulary and communication skills while teachers build curriculum across disciplines.
Special Needs Arts	Children (pre-k–12th grade) with significant physical and developmental challenges	Special needs students increase independence and confidence, strengthen communication skills and build social-emotional awareness.
Arts Achieve	Arts educators throughout NYC and students in 5th and 8th grades and high school	AC is one of 6 partner organizations citywide improving student achievement in the arts by implementing balanced arts assessments and creating programming that helps close the achievement gap.
Artful Learning Communities	96 arts specialists throughout NYC	Led by AC, arts specialists collaborate with colleagues to assess learning, transform teaching, and promote student achievement.
Common Core and the Arts	1,300 NYC public school students and their teachers	Helps students become college- and career-ready by building critical thinking skills needed to succeed in the 21st century.

TEEN PROGRAMS

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• High 5 Ticketing Program• TRaC• Student Art Program	Young people 13–18 yrs	Teens develop independence and awareness of cultural opportunities throughout NYC, building and gaining critical thinking and writing skills.
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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

	Classroom teachers, arts specialists, teaching artists, paraprofessionals, and arts educators and researchers nationwide	AC engages with educators to keep their skills current and expand their knowledge and practice.
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"In eight weeks, TRaC managed to change my life. Opening my eyes to new experiences, enabling me to think critically, and improving my writing skills, TRaC became the acceleration pedal to my drive toward an artistic career."

—High school student

Teen Reviewers and Critics

The Teen Reviewers & Critics (TRaC) program empowers high school students to think critically, express their ideas, hone writing and communication skills, and respect the opinions of others. Modeled on a college seminar, teens participate in guided explorations of the cultural life of NYC, learn to discuss and write about their experiences, study with acclaimed critics and artists, and get a firsthand look into careers in journalism and the arts. Each year, TRaC programming serves 500 high school sophomores, juniors and seniors from across the NYC metro area, and focuses on music, dance, theater, film, media and the visual arts. The program also provides a compelling platform for teen voices through its online publication of their reviews, editorials, interviews and stories.

TRaC students have been accepted to colleges and universities as diverse as Princeton University, Maryland Institute for Contemporary Art, Syracuse University, Dean College, Vassar College, Brooklyn College, Kenyon College, SUNY Albany, SUNY Purchase, SUNY Geneseo, Vanderbilt University, New York University, Cornell University, Barnard College and more.

The President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities has twice named TRaC as one of the top 50 arts-based youth programs in the country.



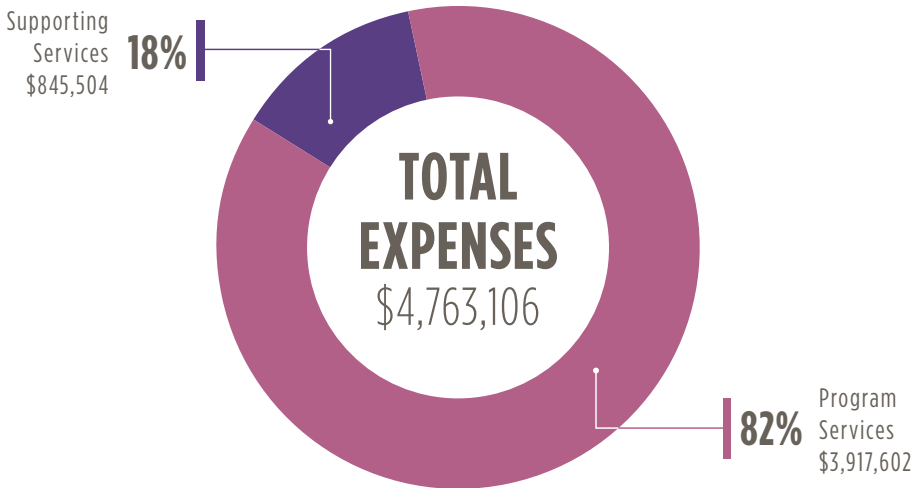
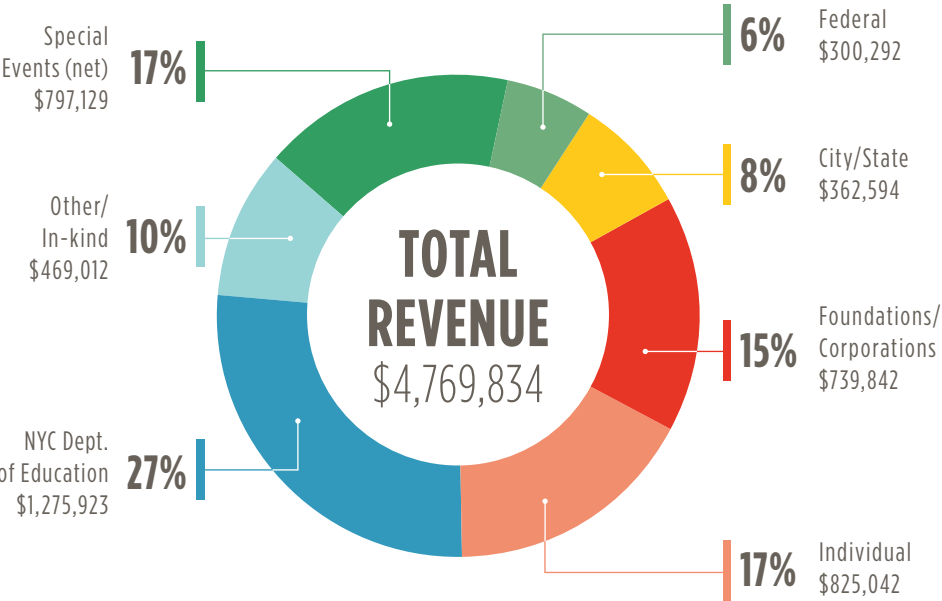
Musical Theater at The Spectrum School

Special needs students lack opportunities to perform on stage for their families and school communities. In response, ArtsConnection partnered with all seven sites of P94M—The Spectrum School, to create a sequential musical theater program for children pre-k–12 on the autism spectrum. The program delivers remarkable results. In January, a group of P94 middle school students travelled to the National Junior Theater Festival in Atlanta—the first group of special needs students to participate in this annual competition. They inspired the 5,000 festival attendees with their uplifting performances from *Aladdin*, bringing home the coveted “Spirit Award.” Thanks to the results of our arts partnership with P94, teachers and parents now see new learning capacities in their children.

DELLTA: Developing English Language Literacy through the Arts

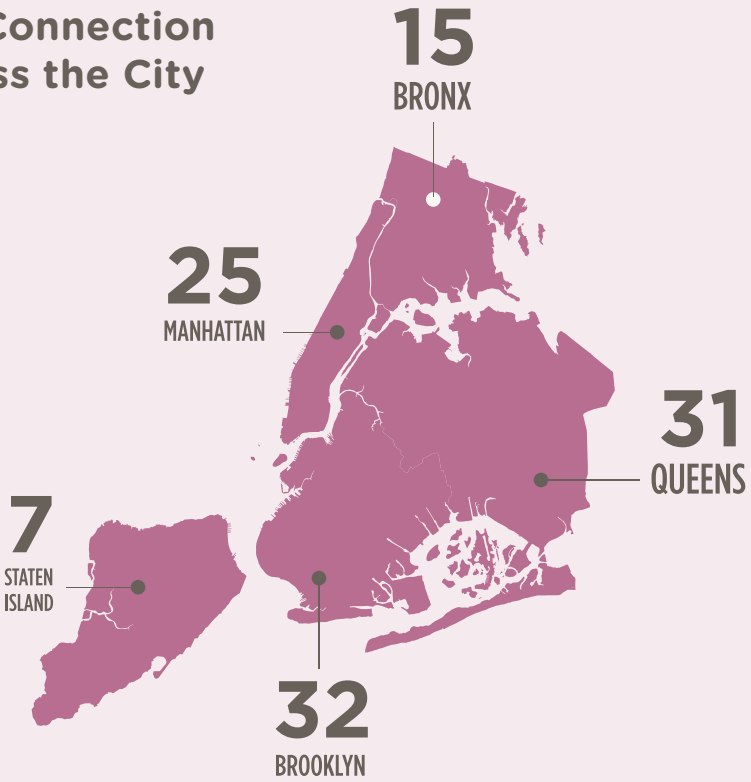
Students who are English Language Learners (ELLs) are often newcomers to the U.S. and come from homes where English is not the primary language. Many fall further behind in school every day because they cannot participate in class or read the assignment. That is why ArtsConnection created DELLTA, a program designed to strengthen English language acquisition for children through active learning in theater and dance. Teaching artists and classroom teachers collaborate to help students build vocabulary and literacy skills, empowering ELLs to express themselves, lift their confidence and find their voice. DELLTA has yielded profound results: in an independent evaluation, DELLTA students scored significantly higher on standardized tests than students in a control group, and demonstrated twice the vocabulary retention.

ArtsConnection Operating Budget FY14*



*Preliminary & unaudited. Complete audited financial statements may be obtained by contacting us: info@artsconnection.org

ArtsConnection Across the City



MANHATTAN

P.S. 6 • P.S. 59 • P.S. 64 • P.S. 124
 P.S. 132 • P.S. 150 • P.S. 375 • Central
 Park East II • City as School • Fiorello
 H. LaGuardia High School • Global
 Technology Preparatory • P 226
 • Peck Slip School • Satellite Academy
 • The Children's Workshop School
 • The Earth School • The Neighborhood
 School • The High School of Fashion
 Industries • The Spectrum School
 P94M at P.S. 15, P.S. 51, P.S. 188,
 P.S. 276, P.S. 361, P.S. 397
 • Thurgood Marshall Academy

BROOKLYN

P.S. 3 • P.S. 32 • P.S. 38 • P.S. 39 • P.S. 69
 • P.S./I.S. 109 • P.S. 113 • P.S. 119 • P.S. 130
 • P.S. 145 • P.S. 154 • P.S. 160 • P.S. 167
 • I.S. 220 • P.S. 230 • P.S. 233 • P.S. 244
 • P.S. 261 • P.S. 269 • P.S. 325 • M.S. 422
 • M.S. 447 • M.S. 596 • M.S. 664

• Brooklyn High School for the Arts
 • Brooklyn Theater Arts High School
 • East New York Middle School of
 Excellence • Lyons Community High School
 • New Heights Middle School • Secondary
 School for Arts • Secondary School
 for Law • Williamsburg Brooklyn
 Community High School

QUEENS

P 9 at P.S. 209 • P.S. 13 • P.S. 19
 • P.S. 20 • P.S. 29 • P.S. 50 • P.S. 68
 • P.S. 85 • P.S. 91 • I.S. 109 • P.S. 120
 • P.S. 127 • P.S. 129 • P.S. 150 • P.S. 153
 • J.H.S. 157 • P.S. 163 • P.S. 177 • I.S. 185
 • I.S. 208 • P.S. 229 • P.S. 239 • P 993
 • Collaborative Arts Middle School
 • Jamaica High School • Queens Children's
 Psychiatric Center • Townsend Harris High
 School • Village Academy • P 993 at Frank
 Sinatra High School & at Long Island City
 High School

BRONX

P.S. 14 • P.S. 30 • P.S. 38 • P.S. 65
 • P.S. 92 • J.H.S. 123 • J.H.S. 145 Arturo
 Toscanini Community Junior High School
 • P.S. 176 • M.S. 215 Knowledge
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 • I.S. 219 New Venture Academy
 • Bronx Little School • Bronx Satellite
 Academy • College Avenue Academy
 • Morris Academy for Collaborative Studies
 • Soundview Academy for Culture
 & Scholarship • Bronx High School
 for the Visual Arts • Bronx Regional
 High School

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P.S. 6 • P.S. 9 • P.S. 16 • P.S. 36 • P.S. 48
 • P.S. 60 • P.S./M.S. 861

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ArtsConnection is the recipient of public funds from the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.

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Front cover and page 6 photo: Marcus Woolen/iTheatrics
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